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Make A Difference with Canned Stew and Scholarships

*By Mike Jennings, CFC Office of
Communications*

Kentucky's Family Resource and Youth Services Centers are trying to collect enough beef stew to supply elderly, homebound and other needy citizens with a meal.

The drive, organized by the FRYSCs and the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service, will culminate on Oct. 27, national "Make a Difference Day." Kentucky is one of eight states conducting organized statewide volunteer activities as part of the annual observance, which is sponsored by USA Weekend and the Points of Light Foundation.

A related effort to create scholarships for the families of victims of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., has won an endorsement from Gov. Paul Patton. The Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America has joined with the Make A Difference Day sponsors to collect money for post-secondary education expenses of children and spouses of those who were killed or permanently disabled in the attacks.

"The tragic events of Sept. 11 have brought out the best in our citizens, including their generosity toward the victims of the disaster," Patton said. He said he and First Lady Judi Patton "can think of no better way to express our resolute American spirit than by guaranteeing educational opportunities to the families that have lost so much."

Donors may drop off cans of beef stew at any local Family Resource or Youth Services Center during school hours Monday through Friday. The canned stew will be delivered to senior service centers, which will distribute it to homebound and elderly families and to congregate meal sites, which serve hot lunches daily to elderly persons who are not homebound. The remaining donations of stew will go to soup kitchens and food banks.

Eileen Cackowski, director of the Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service, said volunteer agencies in Western Kentucky suggested that Make A Difference Day efforts focus on collecting enough donated stew for the nearly 11,500 individuals who receive home-delivered meals and all seniors who eat at 222 nutrition sites.

Other volunteer activities scheduled for Oct. 27, she said, include weatherizing elderly families' homes. Anyone interested in conducting a volunteer service activity on "Make a Difference Day" may contact a volunteer service center for suggestions.

The centers are: Metro United Way in Louisville (telephone 502-266-6328, e-mail connect@metrouw.org); the Volunteer Center of Owensboro (telephone 270-683-9161, e-mail volunteeroboro@mindspring.com); FIRSTLINK of the Bluegrass in Lexington (telephone 859-313-5465); the Volunteer Resource Center in Richmond (telephone 859-624-2046); and the Volunteer & Information Center in Henderson (telephone 270-831-2273; e-mail vicinc@dynasty.net).

Anyone wishing to donate to the Make A Difference Day Scholarship Fund can visit makeadifferenceday.com to donate by credit card, call 1-800-416-3824, or send a check to Make A Difference Day Scholarship Fund, 1400 I Street, N.W., Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Governor Stresses Importance of Guardianship Planning

By Lisa Wallace, CFC Office of Communications

Gov. Paul Patton has issued a proclamation designating October Guardianship Month in Kentucky. The observance is intended: to recognize the work of guardians of adults with special needs; to raise public awareness of the crimes of abuse, neglect and exploitation against dependent adults; and to encourage healthy adults to make plans for their personal and financial care in the event they become incapacitated in their old age or as a result of injury or illness.



Stop-smoking Class Begins Next Month

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Office of Communications

The Department for Public Health is sponsoring a 12-week smoking cessation class, starting next month. CFC employees are invited to attend the free course.

The first Cooper/Clayton Method to Stop Smoking class begins at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8, in the Health Services auditorium. The hour-long class will meet at that time and place every week.

The class addresses all aspects of smoking and includes the use of nicotine replacement products.

For details about the course, call Beth Thomas or Irene Centers at 564-7996.

Web Site Links Employees to Personnel Information

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Office of Communications

Ever need your leave balance information quickly, to plan a vacation? Do you wonder how much money was deducted from a certain paycheck for Social Security or other programs?

Employees can access this and other personnel information with just a few clicks on their work or home computers thanks to ClickHR, a new self-service, Web-based system from the Personnel Cabinet.

With your user identification and password, recently mailed to employees by Personnel, only you can access information about your paycheck stubs, health and life insurance and time balances. You can update your employee profile, including emergency contact information.

Also available is an employee directory, where you can find office contact information for other state government workers. It's up to staff to update their information for the employee directory.

By linking to and completing an online survey about the Web site, you'll be eligible to win a free vacation at a Kentucky State Park.

The following site offers tips on logging onto ClickHR for the first time: <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/personnel/kesslog.htm>. Log onto or bookmark <https://kess.state.ky.us/ClickHR/Top/index.html> to return to the site.

What's on the Way!

.. There will be a Health and Wellness Fair on Friday, Oct. 12 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the CHR Building Lobby. The Fair is part of Employee Appreciation Week.

.. CFC Clean-Up Day will be Oct.19.



Sick Leave Needs

Taressa Woolums in CFC's Office of General Counsel is in need of donated sick leave. To donate leave time, contact Kellie Peace at 564-7900.



Rachel Sweasy in CFC's Family Support Office in Jefferson County is in need of donated sick leave. To donate leave time, contact Donna Weathers at (502) 595-4316.

Maurica Ellis, OPE, is in need of donated sick leave. To donate leave time, contact Gloria Calhoun at 564-5402.

It All Adds Up

This is a reminder to all CFC staff approved to work a flexible schedule of the restrictions concerning overtime. Those who work a "five-day/four-day biweekly schedule" are prohibited from working more than 40 hours per work week on this schedule. This is because the Fair Labor Standards Act requires non-exempt employees to accrue or be paid overtime at a rate of one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours per work week.



For example, the "five-day/four-day biweekly schedule" allows an employee to work up to 2.5 hours of overtime during the first work week (.50 hours per day for five days) plus 5.0 hours of overtime during the second work week (1.25 hours per day for four days) in order to take off a full day (7.50 hours) during the second work week.

Please remember that a flex schedule is a privilege which requires written approval from your supervisor, and the supervisor's primary scheduling responsibility is to ensure that every unit is adequately staffed at all times.